

20. The security item of claims 18 or 19, wherein apart from the security element, the security item consists mainly of paper.

21. The security item of claims 18 or 19, wherein apart from the security element, the security item contains one or more synthetic polymers.

22. The security item of claim 18, wherein the security element can be excited to luminescence by irradiation with electromagnetic radiation at a wavelength between 200 and 400 nm.

23. The security item of claim 18, wherein the security element includes at least one carrier polymer and one luminescent dye.

24. The security item of claim 23, wherein the luminescent dye is at least one partially conjugated polymer.

25. The security item of claim 23, wherein the luminescent dye is a poly-*p*-phenylene-ethynylene derivative.

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26. The security item of claim 18, wherein counterfeiting of the security item is made difficult or impossible.

27. The security item of claim 18, wherein the authenticity and/or validity of the security item is identified.

28. The security item of claim 18, wherein the identification of the security item is permitted or simplified.

29. The security item of claim 18, wherein the security item is in a form selected from a group consisting of bank notes, checks, stocks, bonds, securities, identification cards, passports, drivers licenses, admission tickets, stamps, bank cards and credit cards.

30. A security item comprising at least one security element having at least one photoluminescent segment with a linearly polarized absorption, wherein the segment has a dichroic ratio of 2 or more in absorption.

31. The security item of claim 30, wherein the segment has a dichroic ratio of 5 or more in absorption.

32. The security item of claim 30, wherein the segment has a dichroic ratio of 10 or more in absorption.

33. The security item of claim 30, wherein the security element is in a form selected from a group consisting of fibers, threads, strips, films, sheets, layers, tapes, plates, disks, chips and/or combinations thereof.

34. The security item of claims 30 or 33, wherein apart from the security element, the security item consists mainly of paper.

35. The security item of claims 30 or 33, wherein apart from the security element, the security item contains one or more synthetic polymers.

36. The security item of claim 30, wherein the security element can be excited to luminescence by irradiation with electromagnetic radiation at a wavelength between 200 and 400 nm.

37. The security item of claim 30, wherein the security element includes at least one carrier polymer and one luminescent dye.

38. The security item of claim 37, wherein the luminescent dye is at least one partially conjugated polymer.

39. The security item of claim 37, wherein the luminescent dye is a poly-*p*-phenylene-ethynylene derivative.

40. The security item of claim 30, wherein counterfeiting of the security item is made difficult or impossible.

41. The security item of claim 30, wherein the authenticity and/or validity of the security item is identified.

42. The security item of claim 30, wherein the identification of the security item is permitted or simplified.

43. The security item of claim 30, wherein the security item is in a form selected from a group consisting of bank notes, checks, stocks, bonds, securities, identification cards, passports, drivers licenses, admission tickets, stamps, bank cards and credit cards.

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44. A method of producing a security item, comprising the step of:
providing the security item with a security element having at least one photoluminescent segment with linearly polarized luminescence, wherein the segment has a dichroic ratio of 5 or more in emission.

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45. The method of producing a security item of claim 44, further comprising the step of:
forming the security element from a group consisting of fibers, threads, strips, films, sheets, layers, tapes, plates, disks, chips and/or combinations thereof.

46. The method of producing a security item of claims 44 or 45, further comprising the step of:
forming the security item, apart from the security element, mainly from paper.

47. The method of producing a security item of claims 44 or 45, further comprising the step of:
forming the security item, apart from the security element, from one or more synthetic polymers.

48. The method of producing a security item of claim 44, further comprising the step of:
exciting the security element to luminescence by irradiation with electromagnetic
radiation at a wavelength between 200 and 400 nm.

49. The method of producing a security item of claim 44, further comprising the step of:
including at least one carrier polymer and one luminescent dye in the security element.

50. The method of producing a security item of claim 49, wherein the luminescent dye is
at least one partially conjugated polymer.

51. The method of producing a security item of claim 49, wherein the luminescent dye is
a poly-*p*-phenylene-ethynylene derivative.

52. The method of producing a security item of claim 44, wherein counterfeiting of the
security item is made difficult or impossible.

53. The method of producing a security item of claim 44, further comprising the step of:
identifying the authenticity and/or validity of the security item.

54. The method of producing a security item of claim 44, further comprising the step of:
permitting the identification of the security item.

55. The method of producing a security item of claim 44, further comprising the step of:
forming the security item from a group consisting of bank notes, checks, stocks, bonds,
securities, identification cards, passports, drivers licenses, admission tickets, stamps, bank cards
and credit cards.

56. A method of producing a security item, comprising the step of:
providing an object with a security element having at least one photoluminescent segment
with a linearly polarized absorption, wherein the segment has a dichroic ratio of 2 or more in
absorption.

57. The method of producing a security item of claim 56, wherein the segment has a
dichroic ratio of 5 or more in absorption.

58. The method of producing a security item of claim 56, wherein the segment has a
dichroic ratio of 10 or more in absorption.

59. The method of producing a security item of claim 56, further comprising the step of:
forming the security element from a group consisting of fibers, threads, strips, films,
sheets, layers, tapes, plates, disks, chips and/or combinations thereof.

60. The method of producing a security item of claims 56 or 59, further comprising the
step of:
forming the security item, apart from the security element, mainly from paper.

61. The method of producing a security item of claims 56 or 59, further comprising the
step of:
forming the security item, apart from the security element, from one or more synthetic
polymers.

62. The method of producing a security item of claim 56, further comprising the step of:
exciting the security element to luminescence by irradiation with electromagnetic
radiation at a wavelength between 200 and 400 nm.

63. The method of producing a security item of claim 56, further comprising the step of:
including at least one carrier polymer and one luminescent dye in the security element.

64. The method of producing a security item of claim 63, wherein the luminescent dye is at least one partially conjugated polymer.

65. The method of producing a security item of claim 63, wherein the luminescent dye is a poly-*p*-phenylene-ethynylene derivative.

66. The method of producing a security item of claim 56, wherein counterfeiting of the security item is made difficult or impossible.

67. The method of producing a security item of claim 56, further comprising the step of: identifying the authenticity and/or validity of the security item.

68. The method of producing a security item of claim 56, further comprising the step of: permitting the identification of the security item.

69. The method of producing a security item of claim 56, further comprising the step of: forming the security item from a group consisting of bank notes, checks, stocks, bonds, securities, identification cards, passports, drivers licenses, admission tickets, stamps, bank cards and credit cards. --